

Message Text

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ARA/ECA:FERONDON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 127996

FOR S/S-BODINE AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN

FOLLOWING REPEAT BRASILIA 4235 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO
RECIFE 25 MAY 77

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 4235

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, BR

SUBJECT: W/W -- ARREST: (CAPUANO, THOMAS) (ROSEBAUGH, LAWRENCE):
NEXT STEPS

REF: A. BRASILIA 4145 B. RECIFE 0069 AND PREVIOUS

1. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, EMBASSY HAS KEPT BRAZILIAN
FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORMED OF EVENTS IN CAPUANO/
ROSEBAUGH CASE, AND HAS REGISTERED ORALLY OUR DISSATIS-
FACTION WITH SOME OF THE EXPLANATIONS THUS FAR OFFERED BY
PERNAMBUCO STATE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC SECURITY. HOWEVER, WE
AS YET HAVE NOT ADDRESSED ANY WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO
FONMIN IN THE MATTER.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 127996

2. IN VIEW OF WRITTEN DECLARATIONS OF THOMAS ROSEBAUGH,
AS PRESENTED TO REPORTERS AND REPORTED TODAY (MAY 25) IN BRAZILIAN
PRESS (SEPTEL), AND TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE IM-
MINENCE OF MRS. CARTER'S VISIT TO BRAZIL, WE BELIEVE THAT
THERE ARE NOW TWO ALTERNATIVES OPEN TO US IN DEALING WITH
THIS MATTER: (A) ALTERNATIVE 1: EMBASSY WOULD PROMPTLY

SEND A NOTE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. NOTE WOULD BRING CASE TO FONMIN'S ATTENTION; EXPRESS EMBASSY CONCERN OVER TREATMENT METED OUT TO ROSEBAUGH AND CAPUANO, WITH EMPHASIS ON FAILURE OF POLICE AUTHORITIES TO INFORM CONSULATE RECIFE OF ARRESTS; NOTE WITH SATISFACTION THE REMEDIAL ACTIONS THUS FAR TAKEN BY PERNAMBUCO STATE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING DETENTION OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE AND STEPS TO ESTABLISH A NOTIFICATION SYSTEM IN EVENT OF FUTURE ARRESTS OF FOREIGN NATIONALS (REFTEL B); AND EXPRESS HOPE THAT THESE STEPS, AND SUCH OTHER MEASURES AS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ITSELF MAY SEE FIT TO TAKE, WILL AVOID SIMILAR OCCURENCES IN THE FUTURE IN PERNAMBUCO OR ELSEWHERE IN BRAZIL. EMBASSY NOTE WOULD NOT BE PUBLICIZED BUT -- OF COURSE, -- THE FACT THAT IT HAD BEEN SENT WOULD HAVE TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED SHOULD WE RECEIVE A SPECIFIC PRESS QUERY ABOUT ACTIONS WE HAVE TAKEN IN THE CASE.

(B) ALTERNATIVE 2: EMBASSY WOULD ASSUME STANCE, BOTH WITH GOB AND (IF ASKED) WITH PRESS, THAT WE ARE AWAITING THE OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE STATE INQUIRY BEING CONDUCTED INTO THE ARRESTS, BEFORE DECIDING UPON FURTHER ACTION. UNDER THIS ALTERNATIVE AN EMBASSY NOTE IN THE TERMS OUTLINED ABOVE WOULD PROBABLY BE CALLED FOR EVENTUALLY, BUT THE TIME REQUIRED FOR COMPLETION OF THE STATE INQUIRY COULD RESULT IN DELIVERY AFTER MRS. CARTER'S VISIT.

3. EMBASSY LEANS TOWARDS ADOPTION OF FIRST ALTERNATIVE, I.E., PROMPT DELIVERY OF NOTE. HOWEVER, IN LIGHT OF POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF EITHER OPTION IN THE CONTEXT
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PAGE 03 STATE 127996

OF THE MRS. CARTER VISIT (ALTERNATIVE 1 IMPACTING UPON THE BRAZILIAN OFFICIAL CLIMATE FOR THE VISIT; ALTERNATIVE 2 POSSIBLY IMPACTING UPON U.S. PUBLIC OPINION), EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON'S THOUGHTS ASAP.
CRIMMINS

UNQUOTE VANCE

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